GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2058
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2007
PUBLICITY OF NREGS
Sikdar Smt. Joytirmoyee

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the participation of rural workforce under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) is not satisfactory due to lack of awareness;

(b) if so , the steps taken/being taken by the Government to create awareness about the programme among the rural households;

(c) the expenditure incurred on such publicity and awareness creating programmes;

(d) whether the Government proposes to involve Panchayati Raj Institutions in such public awareness programmes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Various steps have been taken to generate awareness about NREGA. Gram Sabhas and one day orientation of all Sarpanches at the Block level have been held. Local vernacular newspapers, radio, TV, films and cultural forms are being used for the purpose. Leaflets and brochures in local language are being provided. Village camps have been organized by the District teams and NGOs and Self help Groups are being associated in the awareness generation.

(c): States have been asked to utilize funds available under 4% administrative expenses for the purpose of awareness generation. In addition, Rs. 531.00 lakhs have also been released by the Centre for IEC activities.

(d)&(e): Yes, Sir. States have been asked to undertake sensitization of Panchayati Raj Institutions about provisions of the Act and their roles and responsibilities under the Act. Gram Sabhas are being held on regular basis.